

How to Create a Bid from Scratch

This Job Aid shows how to:

Create a Bid from Scratch in COMMBUYS

Of Special Note:

Bids are documents used to request price quotes and post opportunities for contracts from potential vendors for goods or services; used when goods or services are not already on a contract (statewide or departmental). Bids can either be a one-time request for goods and services, which would turn into an open market purchase order, or they can become a Master Blanket Purchase Order in COMMBUYS (formerly known as a contract or Master Agreement). They can also become a SWC (Statewide Contract) or Departmental Contract. This job aid will start at the point of creating a new bid, without a Requisition. Please review OSD policy if you have any questions.

Bid Types:

Open: Allows any vendor to submit a response, even vendors not originally notified of the Bid upon posting on COMMBUYS. Open Bids should be used for all procurements unless they fall into one of the situations where a Closed Bid is appropriate

- Unrestricted: Default on the Bidders tab
 - Visible externally and open to all vendors for response
- Restricted: User must make this selection on the Bidders tab
 - Visible externally but displays security message when viewer not logged in

Closed: User must make this selection on the General tab. Appropriate only in limited circumstances when a public bid is not required. For example, this option is appropriate for issuing bids (Requests for Quotes) against Statewide and Departmental Contracts, where the pool of eligible vendors is already established

This selection does not show externally, but is visible only to selected vendors when they are logged in

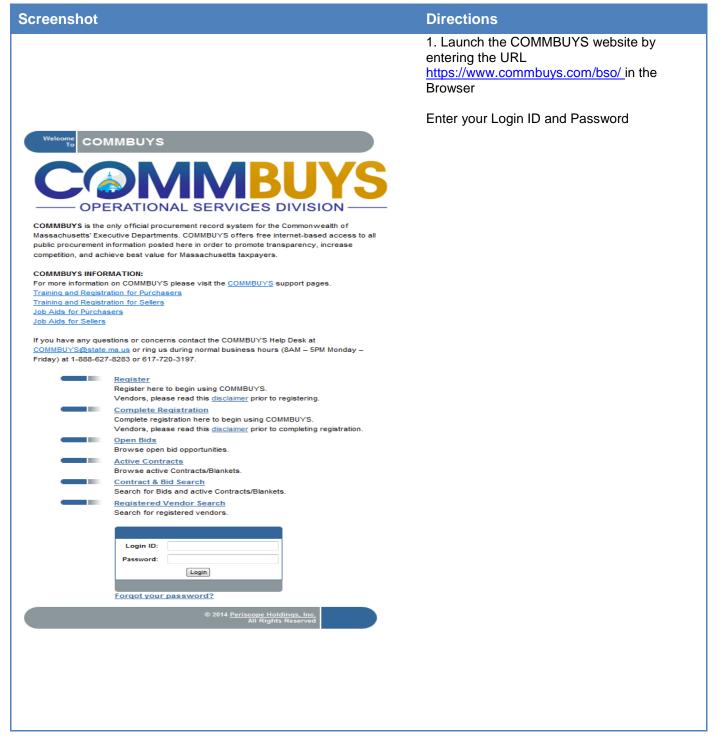
Formal: Bids are "formal" by default and maybe either Open or Closed. Formal bids are used for all procurements unless they fall into one of the situations where an Informal Bid is appropriate. Formal Bids with multiple awards result in "Open Enrollment" Qualified Contractor Lists, as described in How to Draft a Request for Response.

- Default on the Vendor tab. No action is required to make a Bid formal.
- Prohibit Basic Purchasing users from viewing any submitted responses until the Opening Date/Time has been reached

Informal: Can be either Open or Closed. Appropriate only in limited circumstances for issuing bids (Requests for Quotes) against Statewide and Departmental Contracts to establish "Rolling Enrollment" Qualified Contractor Lists, as described in How to Draft a Request for Response.

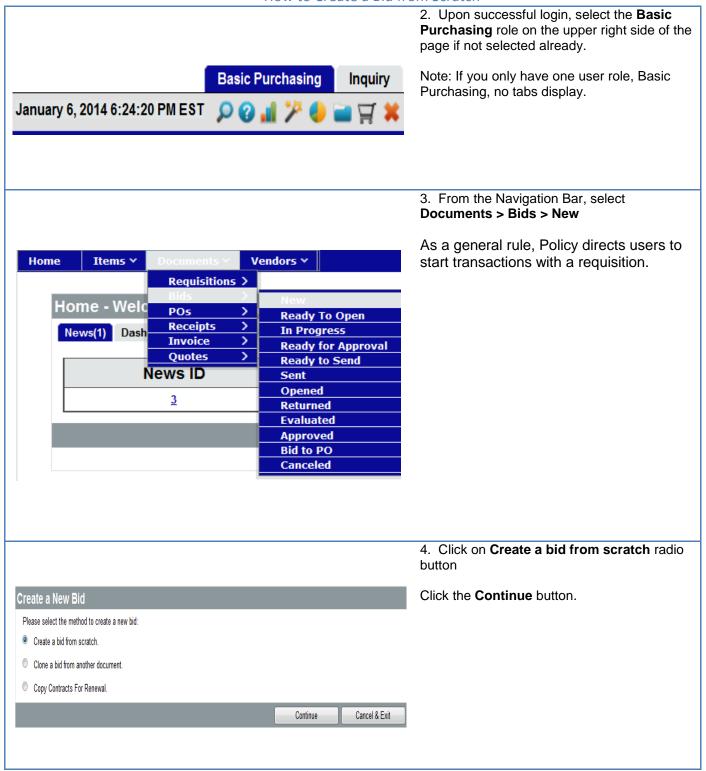
• Allow "Purchaser" to view vendor responses prior to the Opening Date/Time







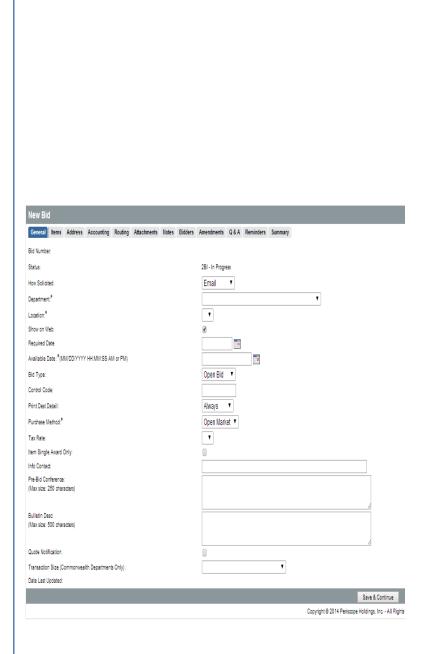
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5. Shown here is the left half of a New Bid General tab. The **General** tab contains the overall header information for the document.

COMMBUYS will generate a BID number after you save your information on the General tab.

Mandatory fields for the left side of a BID:

- Department: select from the department from dropdown, if not automatically populated
- Location: select from the location dropdown; if not automatically populated
- Available Date: date the bid will be viewable on COMMBUYS
- **Purchase Method** (dropdown): select from the dropdown
 - o Open Market one time bid
 - o Contract do not use
 - Blanket results in a contract (departmental or statewide)

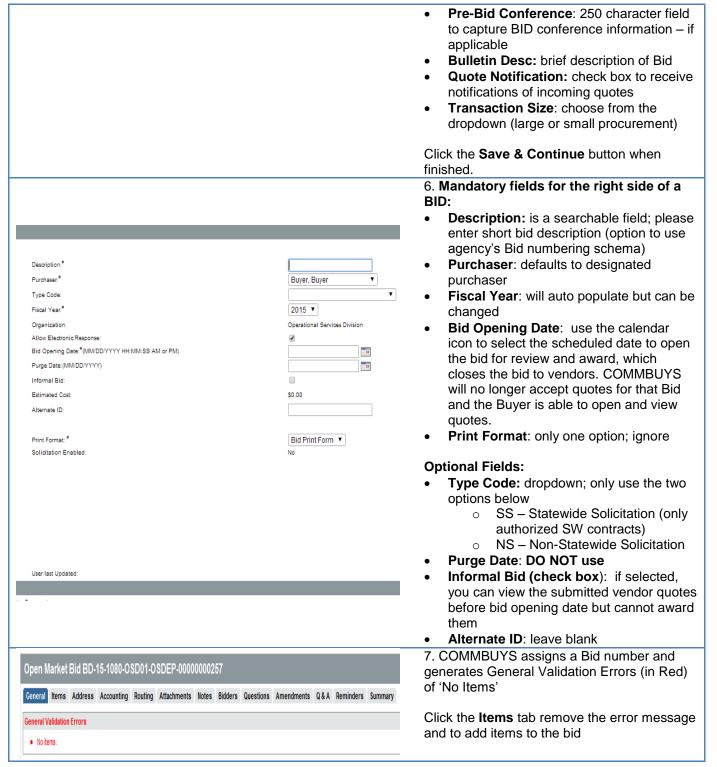
Mandatory fields for Blanket (contract):

- Purchase Method: dropdown; if Blanket is selected, two additional fields requiring input populate:
 - Blanket Begin Date: beginning date of the blanket, use the calendar icon to select date
 - Blanket End Dates: blanket end date, use the calendar icon to select date

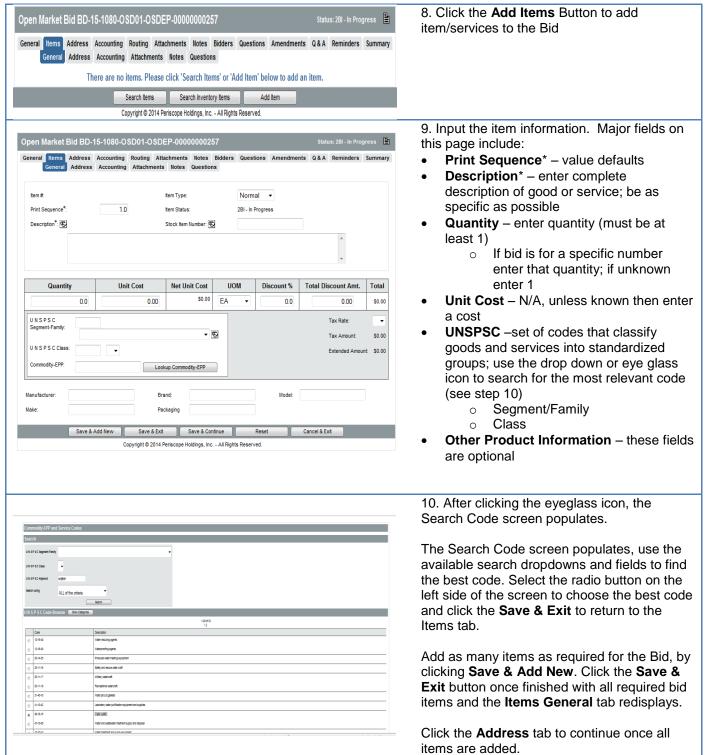
Optional fields:

- How Solicited: do not touch
 - Email (default)
- Show on Web: controls if the bid displays and is searchable in COMMBUYS – always be checked
- Required Date: use calendar icon to select the date the commodity or service is required; can also be left blank
- **Bid Type**: defaults to open; dropdown
 - Open available for all Vendors to view and respond
 - Closed only selected Vendors on the Bid can view and respond
- Control Code: leave blank
- Print Dest Detail: leave blank
- Tax Rate: n/a for Commonwealth
- Item Single Award Only: leave unchecked
- Info Contract: editable field; input the name of the person for Vendor's contact if it differs from the purchaser

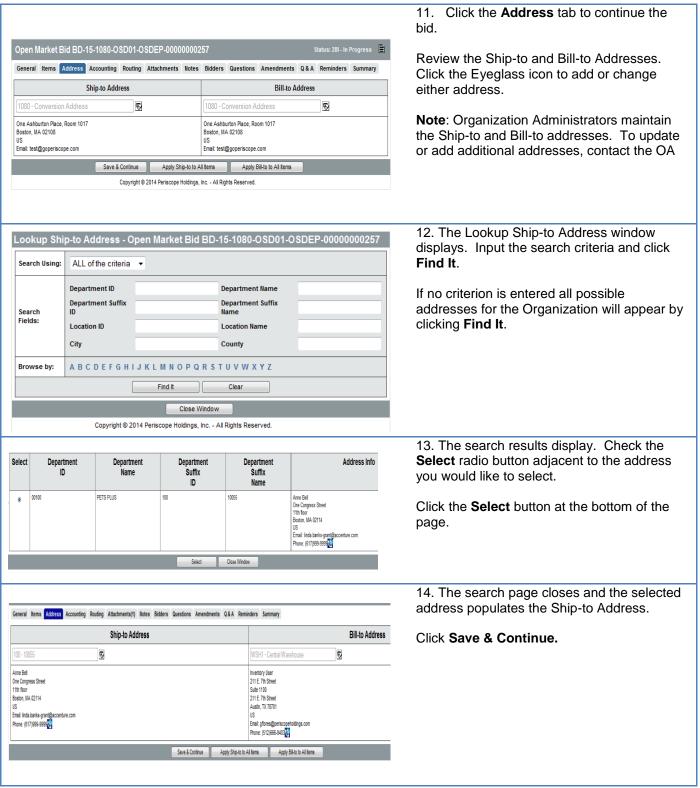






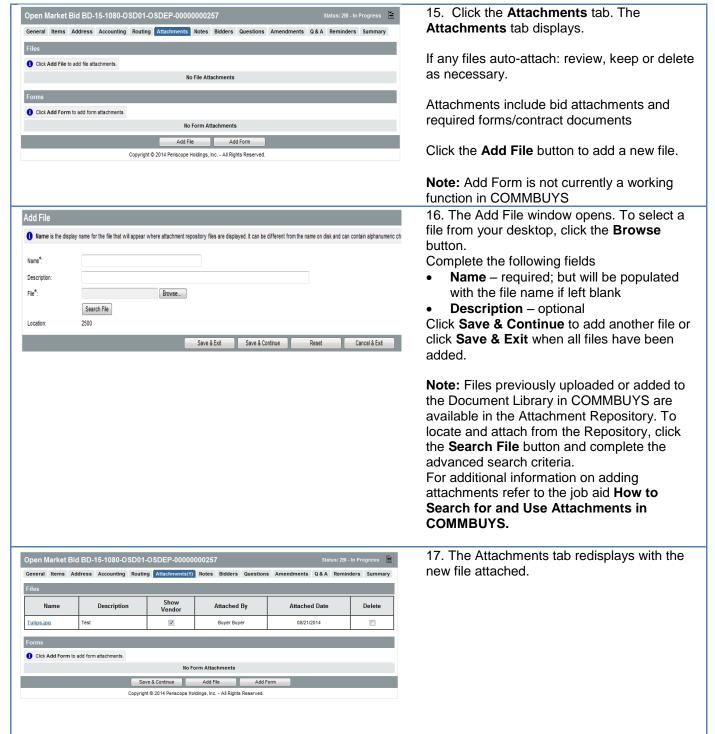








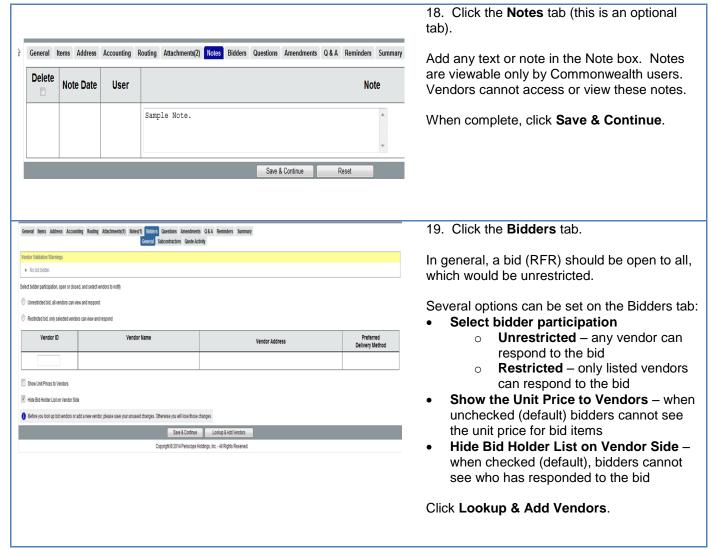
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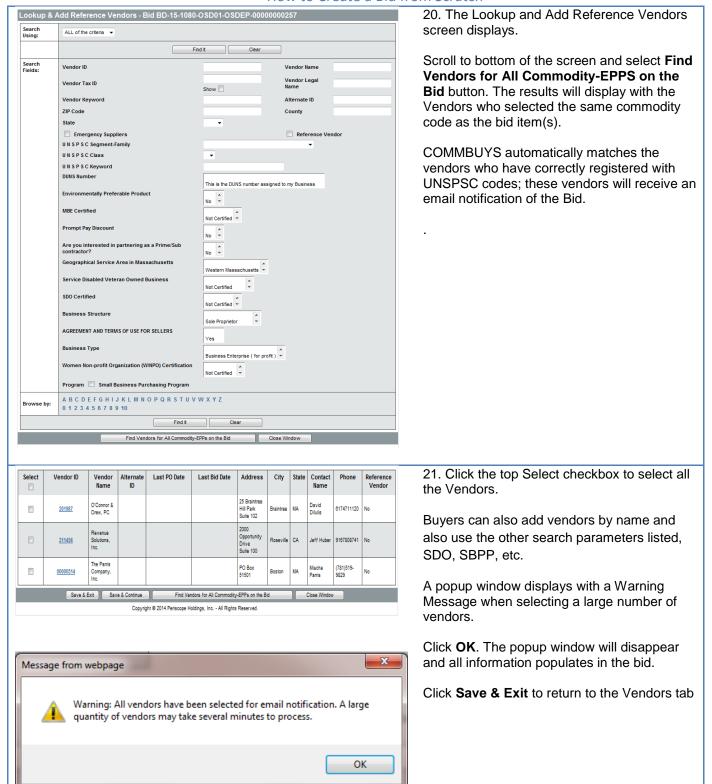
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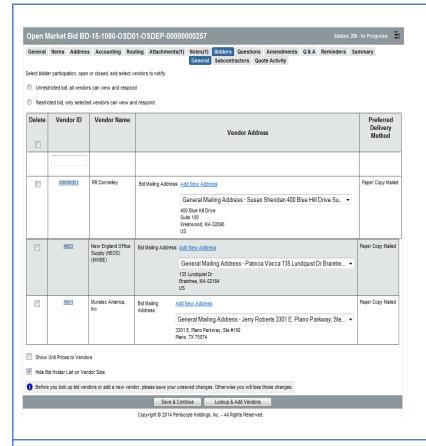
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22. The **Vendors tab** will now display all the Vendors you selected

Buyers should see email as the preferred method of delivery.

Click **Lookup & Add Vendors** multiple times to ensure that vendors with different commodity codes relevant for your bid are included, by entering the criteria in the search field. Be as broad as possible to select all possible vendors.

COMMBUYS will create a combined notification list of all vendors you select through multiple vendor searches. If a vendor appears multiple times, COMMBUYS will keep the company on the list once to avoid duplicate notification.



23. Click the **Questions** tab (this is an optional tab)

The **Questions** tab allows you to create questions for the vendor to answer with a supplied response type. You can make these questions a required response by checking the Required box.

To change the **Response Type**, chose from the available dropdown options.

Once all questions are entered, click **Save & Continue.**

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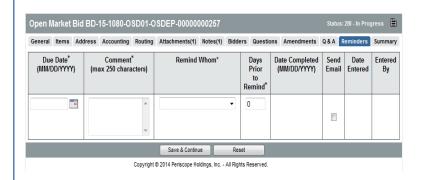
24. Click the **Q&A** tab (this is an optional tab). The **Q&A** tab is a way for vendors and the Commonwealth to dialog within the bid.

This feature is only usable before the bid opening date; however, the questions and answers remain viewable after the bid is opened.

In addition to adding the questions, there are two options on this page:

- Allow Vendor to submit questions make sure to check if questions are allowed for the bid
- Send notification when vendor sends question – use if you want notifications of questions sent in COMMBUYS

Click **Save & Continue** after entry of each question.



25. Click the **Reminders** tab (this is an optional tab)

To create a reminder, input the information on the **Reminder** tab including:

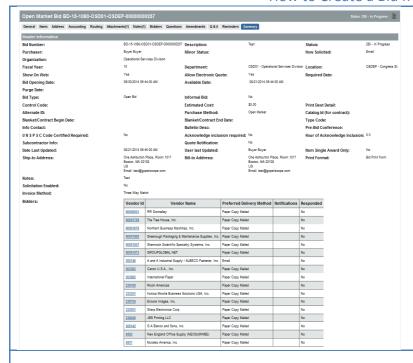
- Due Date
- Comment
- Remind Whom
- Davs Prior to Remind
- Send Email

When the reminder is sent, the tab updates with the Date Completed.

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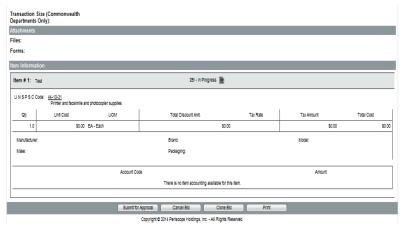


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26. Click the Summary tab.

The **Summary** tab provides a recap of the bid information. Shown here is the upper part of the Summary tab.



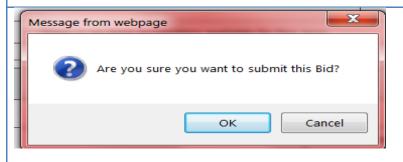
27. Shown here is the lower part of the **Summary** tab that provides a summary of each item on the bid as well as the action buttons currently available for the bid:

- Submit for Approval
- Cancel Bid
- Clone Bid
- Print

After reviewing the information, click the **Submit for Approval** button to submit the bid into workflow for approval routing.

Skipped Tabs:

- Accounting: Phase II
- Routing: populates after submission for approval

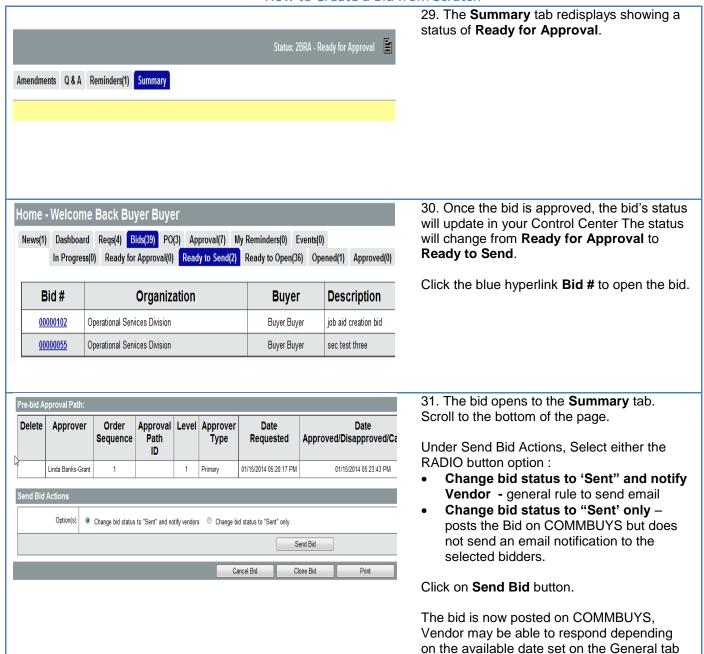


28. A Popup message displays stating 'Are you sure you want to submit this bid?'

Click **OK** to continue with the submission. To cancel the submission, click **Cancel**.



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